

TO: Commissioners of the Oahu Real Property Tax Advisory Commission

FROM: Natalie Iwasa, CPA, CFE  
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MEETING: 10:30 a.m. Thursday, November 30, 2017

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Aloha Chair Oshiro and Commissioners,

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Minutes for November 9, 2017 - Please add my name to the list of people present.

Prior testimony regarding Residential A

During my testimony at the November 9 meeting, I expressed concerns regarding farmers who I thought might be subject to Residential A classification and higher taxes after their homes are assessed at over \$1 million. I understand now, thanks to Steven Takara, that those properties are zoned as agriculture rather than residential. They therefore will not fall into the Residential A classification. If the homes are used as a primary residence by the owner or a lessee with a five-year lease, the homeowners' exemption may apply.

Please note, however, that I am still concerned about the Residential A classification and believe the floor should be raised to at least \$1.5 million.

Report

No report is available for comment. While one will be provided at the meeting, that is not adequate for anyone who would like to review it and make serious comments for your consideration.

Recommendations for the next commission

The December 1 deadline does not allow enough time for adequate input into the report, especially given that there was barely any media coverage of the commission's meetings. Please ask the council to provide at least one more month for future commissions to provide the final report.